

FEB 18 1925 ✓

FIRST NATIONAL PICTURES INC.

916 G STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C.

PHONE: MAIN 176



Title Page.

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"QUO VADIS" ✓

A Photoplay in 9 reels. ✓

By Henryk Sienkiewicz. ✓

~~Author of Photoplay First National Pictures Inc. 2-3-25~~

First National First

FEB 18 1925

QUO VADIS

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First National Pictures, Inc.....10%
Presents the new gigantic
"QUO VADIS".....100%
By Henryk Sienkiewicz.....5%
Produced by
Unione Cinematografica Italiana.....10%
With
Emil Jannings.....30%
A First National Picture.....25%

C A S T

Emil Jannings.....Nero	Alphons Fryland.....Vinicius
Lillian Hall Davis.....Lycia	Bruto Castellani.....Ursus
Elena Di Sangro.....Poppaea	Ginac Viotti.....Cheilon Cheilonides
Elga Brink.....Domitilla	R. Van Riel.....Tigellinus
Rina De Liguoro.....Eunice	Andree Habay.....Petronius

Synopsis (Not for Publication)

Nero, cruel and vainglorious, the sixth of the Caesars who ruled the Roman Empire, is prevailed upon to sign a decree inflicting a death penalty on all worshippers of the Christian faith. The patrician, Aulus Plautus, his wife Domitilla, and their guest Lycia, daughter of the vanquished King Lycius, are affected by this edict.

Vinicius, the tribune, famous for his martial triumphs, sees Lycia and is smitten with her striking beauty. He prevails upon Petronius, "arbiter elegantarium", to obtain Nero's permission for him to marry Lycia.

Meanwhile Nero sees Lycia at one of his court revels, and, his dissolute senses awakened by her beauty, decides to convert her to his faith. Vinicius becomes jealous and Nero uses the opportunity to intervene. Inveigling Lycia to his private chambers he torments her with caresses, when Nero's wife, the Empress Poppaea, enters unexpectedly. The wily Caesar, to protect himself, calls Vinicius to his aid and the marriage to Lycia is affected. Lycia escapes from Vinicius through the aid of her faithful slave, Ursus, and returns to her Christian friends.

That night the cowardly Nero is troubled by qualms of conscience, and accompanied by Tigellinus, commander of the praetorian guard, visits a soothsayer and is told that the Christian symbol is fatal to him.

Vinicius is conducted to Lycia's hiding place by Cheilon Cheilonides, a charlatan and philosopher. Accompanied by Croton, a gladiator, they find Lycia, but Ursus kills the gladiator and wounds Vinicius, whose life is spared by the intervention of Lycia. Vinicius is so affected by this act of Christian charity that he embraces the Christian religion. After his convalescence he is ordered by Nero to attend Nero's singing of the new "Iliad".

Although Nero is applauded by the multitudes Petronius tells him the lyric is unworthy of such a tragic subject as the burning of a great city. Nero agrees and, saying that he needs the inspiration of realism in order to revise his composition, orders that Rome be burned. Several days later Nero chants his absurd composition as the city burns.

The enraged Roman citizenry surround the palace and demand the death penalty of the one responsible for the fire. Nero, terror-stricken, fixes the blame on the Christians, and promises their spectacular death in a series of circuses. The Apostle Peter is prevailed upon to flee from Rome but outside the city decides to return to Rome with the other martyrs.

Lycia is the last of the Christians to be sacrificed and instead of being fed to the lions she is put in the ring tied to the back of a raging bull. Ursus gains entrance to the arena and attacks and overthrows the bull. Vinicius pleads for the life of Lycia, with the support of the populace.

At this time the word is passed about that troops, under the command of Galba, have revolted against Nero and proclaimed Galba Emperor. Immediately the enraged Romans direct their ire at Nero, who flees in terror. He takes refuge in a lonely hovel but as the soldiers hunting him draw near, Nero is killed by the gladiator accompanying him, when he is too cowardly to take his own life.

Blessed by the Apostle Peter, Lycia and Vinicius celebrate their wedding under the cross, the symbol of that love and peace which remain the highest aspirations of Humanity.

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FEB 18 1925

Dated at Wash D C.

Feb 18 1925

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FEB 27 1925

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